

putial conditions, the operation, together with the consideration of the vices of formation, occupy the rest of the volume, and aside from the illustrations, which are above the average, present nothing new and follow the usual lines.

E. A. H.

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DISEASES OF THE SKIN: THEIR DESCRIPTION, PATHOLOGY, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE SKIN ERUPTIONS OF CHILDREN, AND AN ANALYSIS OF FIFTEEN THOUSAND CASES OF SKIN DISEASE. By H. RADCLIFFE-CROCKER, M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.P., Physician for Diseases of the Skin in University College Hospital; Honorary Member of the American Dermatological Society; Membre Correspondant Etranger de la Société Française de Dermatologie, etc. Third edition, revised and enlarged, with 4 plates and 112 illustrations. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co.

THIS new edition of Crocker's *Diseases of the Skin* is a ponderous volume of more than 1400 pages, half again as large as its predecessor. A long list of subjects not included in previous editions is considered, of which the most important are x-ray dermatitis, toxin serum eruptions, porokeratosis, granuloma pyogenicum, leukæmia, and pseudoleukæmia cutis, acne necrotisans, acne agminata, folliculitis decalvans, and blastomycosis hominis. We note with hearty approval that the author, for the sake of uniformity of nomenclature, has changed the names of some of the diseases; and we sincerely hope other authors, influenced by this example, may likewise endeavor to bring some order out of the chaos of names in which dermatology has so long floundered.

Concerning the role of parasites in the causation of eczema the author's view is that "while a limited number of cases of local dermatitis indistinguishable from eczemas are parasitic, in most the dermatitis, however caused, only opens the door to the parasites whose presence keeps up local irritation, so that their destruction is an important step in the restoration of the skin *ad integrum*." He believes that toxins, having their origin most frequently in the alimentary canal, often cause eczema, although he admits the difficulty of definitely proving it. He accepts unreservedly the view that seborrhæic dermatitis, Unna's seborrhæic eczema, has a parasitic origin.

Psoriasis is believed to be due to an unknown microparasite which finds conditions suitable for its growth in the skins of certain individuals only. This parasite, while reaching the skin from without, probably reaches the circulation in a certain number of cases, causing the wide and rapid spread of the eruption which is not infrequently observed. In the treatment of this annoying and obsti-

nate affection the author accords a prominent place to salicin and its derivatives, remedies which he introduced to the notice of the profession in 1895. Salicin is preferable to the salicylates because it is much less apt to disturb the stomach. In doses of 15 to 20 grains three times a day it usually produces paling of the patches and a noticeable diminution of the scaling; and, unlike arsenic, it may be given in the acute stages of the disease without danger of increasing or aggravating the eruption.

Some 55 pages are devoted to the discussion of tuberculosis of the skin. This great increase in the space given to this most important subject, while due in large part to the numerous additions made to our knowledge in the past decade, is not wholly so, but results in part from the rearrangement of the subject-matter of the text by which certain diseases are now included among the tuberculous affections which formerly were given a place apart, as, for example, the scrofulodermata. The author seems only mildly enthusiastic concerning phototherapy in lupus vulgaris, and apparently is not yet quite ready to throw aside all the older methods of treating this distressing malady for the new one; he even believes there is still a place, although a limited and subordinate one, for the greatly discredited tuberculin.

Perhaps the most extensive alterations of and additions to the text are to be found in the sections on the vegetable parasitic diseases. These embody the very extensive increase in our knowledge of the ringworm fungi resulting from the work of Sabouraud and others during the ten years which have elapsed since the appearance of the second edition.

A short section is devoted to blastomycosis, an interesting and important parasitic affection of the skin whose clinical and pathological features have been made known to the profession chiefly through the work of American observers.

In conclusion, the same praiseworthy features which early won for this treatise an enviable place in dermatological literature, characterize this new edition, and we heartily recommend it to all those (and this should include every member of the profession) who are interested in this department of medicine. M. B. H.

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MALADIES MICROBIENNES EN GENERAL. Par PAUL CARNOT. Nouveau Traité de Médecine et de Thérapeutique. Publié en fascicules, sous la direction de MM. P. BROUARDEL et A. GILBERT. Paris: T. B. Baillière et Fils, 1905.

THIS volume of two hundred and odd pages represents the first "fascicule" of the "Nouveau Traité de Médecine," edited by Brouardel and Gilbert. The book is to be published in pamphlet form.